



# The Canal Zone Philatelist



Vol. 38, No. 4

Fourth Quarter, 2002

Whole No. 145

## President's Report

by Jim Crumpacker

Your annual CZSG dues notice for the \$8 renewal probably arrived in the mail around the middle of November. Our membership, as reported by CZSG Secretary John C. Smith, stands at 723. Last year at the same time it was 725. The Contributing and Sustaining group, i.e. those who voluntarily make a monetary gift above the \$8 minimum, consists of 245 people, more than one-third of the total. My compliments to you all. The organization will use some of the funds on your behalf next year when the UPSS volume on Canal Zone postal stationery comes out. As to the slight membership decline, it is a much much lower percentage of decrease than in most similar philatelic organizations.

We hope you were pleased with the letter opener sent to each individual member as our 50th Anniversary gift. It was the intention of the officers and board of directors to send out something that could be used practically every day. Of course, one tends to already own those things which receive daily use, so finding a choice which is both different and useful is nearly impossible. My thanks to Dick Salz, who ordered the letter openers from a Canadian source. He and his daughter, with help from an even younger generation, stamped, sealed, and mailed the entire 700+ copies.

Those of you who like to own at least one example of all the basic Scott integers of Canal Zone stamps are reminded that you must add a copy of the new Scott J11C to your collections. Refer to my article on the 2003

(continued on page 59)

## Scott No. 22 - New Variety

by R. H. Salz

As there are so many varieties in Canal Zone philately, it is a good idea to browse through your collection from time to time. You might have missed something, I did!

Recently while looking at an album page of Scott No. 22 (1-cent green) and its many varieties, I saw two items both of which were noted as being Scott No. 22a. This made no sense as the strip of three, Fig. 1, is not a horizontal pair, imperforate between; but instead, is a horizontal pair imperforate vertically, and it is not listed in Scott!



Fig. 1. Scott 22 var., horz. strip of 3, imperf vertically.

Figure 2 is an example of 22a—note the perforations are on all four of the outside edges of the pair while the space between the two stamps is the part that is imperforate between. The conclusion: Fig. 1 is a new variety, and an American Philatelic Society Expert Committee Report (APE 144769) states that it is "Scott No. 22 unlisted variety, unused horizontal strip of three, imperf

(Continued on page 55)



Fig. 2. Scott 22a, strip of 2, Imperf between

## CZSG REGIONAL MEETINGS:

ARIPEX 2003, SAT. JAN 25, 1PM;  
TUCSON CONVENTION CENTER, AZ  
SANDICAL 2003, SAT. FEB., 8,  
AL-BAHR SHRINE, SAN DIEGO, CA

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***The Canal Zone  
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Back issues of the journal, handbooks, and other publications can be ordered from Richard F. Murphy, 501 Rosebud Lane, Greer, SC 29650.

Articles and information for publication should be sent to the Editor. Glossy photographs are desirable for figures of stamps or covers; however, enlarged high quality photocopies are sometimes acceptable. Illustrations must show clearly against black backgrounds. If you need help, write, phone, or FAX the Editor. The author must advise the Editor if the article has been published or is being considered for publication elsewhere.

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### **CZSG Mail Sale #30**

After a lapse of too many months the 2001 CZSG Mail Sale is almost history. After paying for the major costs of catalog printing and postage and including an expected insurance claim and one unsettled billing, we have cleared a profit of \$2001.30.

81% of the 1267 listed items were sold realizing 80% of catalog/estimate. The realized prices are a statement of current market values of a wide range of Canal Zone philatelic property.

**David J. Leeds**

## Forged Overprints of Canal Zone Stamps First Series on Cover, Part 1

By David T. Zemer

### Introduction

Past issues of the *Canal Zone Philatelist* have discussed both the genuine and forged Canal Zone overprints on the First Series stamps on cover. They mention that forgeries of the Canal Zone overprints on the First Series as well as forgeries of the Canal Zone cancellations are known to exist. However little has been written about these forgeries on cover.

Those covers with forged Canal Zone overprints on the 2, 5, and 10 centavo Panama stamps that were accepted by the Canal Zone postal service are of particular interest to me. As the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the First Series is fast approaching now is an appropriate time to examine them in more detail.

This report on forged overprints of the First Series on cover is the first of two parts and is restricted to covers that have a full set of three forged overprinted stamps. The second part will appear later in the *Canal Zone Philatelist* and will include those covers that do not have a full set of stamps.

### Dated Covers with a Full Set of Forged Overprints on First Series Stamps

A few covers with forgeries of these stamps that transited the Canal Zone postal system exist. They have genuine postmarks on them with dates from the short period that these stamps were used in the Canal Zone. In the past some have been offered

for sale as genuine at premium prices. Collectors could easily have mistaken these covers as genuine when they saw the photographs in auction catalogues. Any first series stamp either on or off cover, to be assured of being genuine, should be accompanied by a *certificate* from any of the well-known expertizing organizations in the United States.

No doubt other collectors than myself have been misled by these covers. In 1989 I bought a cover, Fig. 1, in Germany with what appeared to be three Canal Zone stamps, Scott numbers 1, 2 and 3. The Canal Zone bar cancel on the stamps as well as the Ancon cancellation of July 14, 1904 appeared to be genuine but the ink used for the Canal Zone handstamp overprint was black instead of the typical dark violet found on genuine copies of these stamps. It is addressed in pencil to Mr. M. Toledano, Panama.

Besides the genuine postmarks I was further misled by the certificate, number 139820 from the Royal Philatelic Society of London dated March 11, 1987, that came with this cover. The person who submitted it was listed as F. Soholl and the RPS stated the stamps were genuine.

To be certain this cover was genuine it was sent to the American Philatelic Expertizing Service. It was returned with their certificate, number 69675, dated 23 August 1989, stating that it was their opinion that

it had "forged CANAL ZONE overprints." This opinion was unexpected and somewhat disillusioning.

A copy of the APS certificate and the cover were sent back to the auction house that had sold it and the purchase price was refunded.

In September 2002 a cover similar to the Toledano cover appeared on Ebay. The picture of the cover was not a high resolution one, but it appeared to have Canal Zone Scott number 1, 2, and 3 on cover. It is dated July 14, 1904, and appears to have a genuine CANAL ZONE bar cancel on the stamps and a genuine ANCON receiving cancellation. The address of the recipient was partially erased leaving only a clear letter M at the beginning of the address and the word Panama at the end.

After this sale, I wanted to know if this cover was the same one that I had bought in 1989, but with an erased address. I contacted the buyer who turned out to be Ted Bailey, a long time member of the Canal Zone Study Group. I told him that I was suspicious this cover was a forgery and would appreciate a good photo copy of the cover when he received it.

Several days later I received several emails with scans from Ted stating he was certain that the stamps were forgeries but the Canal Zone killer bar and Ancon cancellations on the front and back appeared to be genuine.

The front of Ted's cover, Fig. 2, not  
(Continued on next page)

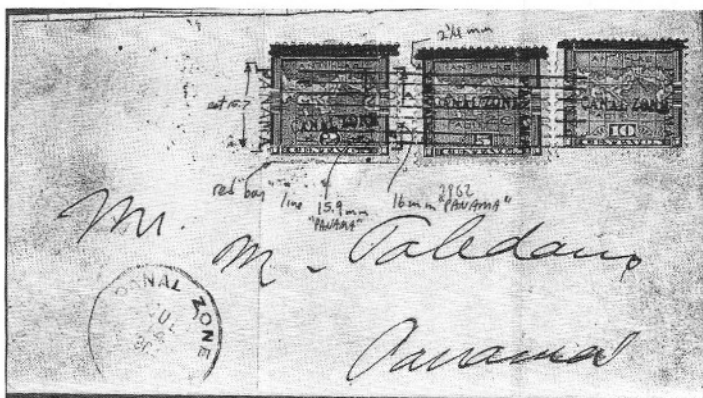


Fig. 1 Forgery addressed to Toledano



Fig. 2 Front of Bailey's forgery addressed to A. de Lemos





Fig. 3. Blowup of Bailey's cover showing forgery of CANAL ZONE Imprint on the envelope

only had a CANAL ZONE overprint in black instead of purple but the right hand side of the letter E in the Canal Zone handstamp overprint on the five centavo stamp was printed on the envelope and not on the stamp, Fig. 3.

Most of the name of the person to whom it was addressed was erased. "M. A de" is clearly readable in the scan. The last word of the name begins with an "L".

On the back of the envelope are several markings, Fig. 4. The first is a Panama cancellation, which is from a worn hand-stamp and classified as TWN PAN 025 in the Colombia/Panama Philatelic Study Group *Handbook of Panama Postal Markings* by Entwistle and Arosemena. This mark also matches several others on the backs of genuine covers with the Canal Zone First Series sent to Panama City. The second marking is the mirror image of the CANAL ZONE bar cancel that has also been seen on the back of a genuine cover. The third marking is a readable mirror image of the CANAL ZONE handstamp found on the Canal Zone First Series stamps. Near it are some small ink markings that could also be parts of letters from other reversed CANAL ZONE handstamp. There are also two manuscript markings in pencil, ZBAK and 2511. Ted later re-sold this cover as a forgery on Ebay and it was bought for \$ 77.

The forgery I had bought in 1989 and the Bailey cover had similar handwriting. The large M's are almost identical as is the letter "d" in "Toledano" and "de" on the Bailey cover. The word Panama on each

cover also appears to have been written by the same person.

Ted and I believe that this cover maker's *modus operandi* was to overprint the basic Panama stamps with CANAL ZONE overprints after putting the stamps on the cover. He appeared to have done this with at least two covers - laying the Bailey cover on top of the first cover while the overprint ink on the stamps on the first cover was still wet.

The names on the addresses seemed familiar but did not ring a bell until Bob Karrer saw them when reviewing a draft of this article. He immediately was able to identify the names on the addresses as Toledano and de Lemos. As most collectors of Panama picture post cards are aware there was a series of cards published by Toledano Bros. & De Lemos before the 1920s.

Suspicious that additional forgeries are in circulation, Dick Salz was contacted and asked if he had any records of similar covers. He responded by sending four photocopies of covers with forged overprints of all three of the Canal Zone First Series on cover. A photocopy of the de Lemos forgery bought by Ted Bailey was one of those in his files. It was marked as a forgery and had been offered for sale as Lot 1 by Kaufmann Auction Galleries on June 24, 1977.

The other three forged covers from Salz are all dated July 14, 1904, and have what appears to be, at least on the photocopies, genuine ANCON postmarks and genuine bar cancellations. The backs of the covers were not available for inspection so it is not

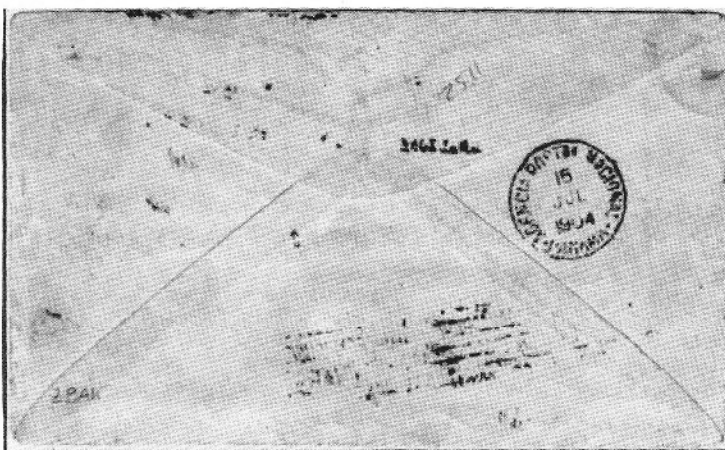


Fig. 4. Back of Bailey's cover showing mirror image of forged CANAL ZONE imprint from another cover

known if they have the same Panama receiving stamp.

The first of these three additional covers from Salz is addressed to Sr. Rafael Alzamora, Panama, Fig 5. The second was addressed to Sr. Don Tomas Paredes, Panama, Fig 6. It was offered for sale at the Peter Kenedi Auction, (November 1979). The description mentioned that... *it had been folded, and that it was a spectacular item and a treasure of Zonian philately with an estimated cash value of \$ 5,000 - \$ 7,000.* Notes on the photocopy indicate that it also had a Panama receiving mark of July 15. The third cover was addressed to Mr. A. de Lemos, Panama, Fig. 7, and had been offered for sale as Lot 435 by Harmer, March 13, 1984. On the photocopy it was noted that it too had a receiving mark of July 15.

On the Paredes and Harmer "de Lemos" covers the P in the word Panama and Paredes appear to be in the same hand. The M in the "Mr" on both Mr. de Lemos covers also appears to be similar to each other but the rest of the name, "A. de Lemos", is written differently.

From the handwriting on the addresses and the names of the address I believe that the same person or persons produced the Toledano, Paredes, and two de Lemos covers.

In addition the Alzamora, the Toledano, Paredes, and the de Lemos (Harmer sale) covers all have 2 centavos stamps that appear to have come from the same pane. Their Panama overprints are all facing down and shifted over to the left with

(Continued on next page)



the leftmost Panama printed outside of the red area.

### Undated Cover with a Full Set of Forged Overprints

George Stilwell has a cover with forgeries of all three First Series Canal Zone overprints, Fig. 8. It too is addressed to A. de Lemos but the handwriting does not seem to match that on the other covers. Unlike the other forged covers it does not have any Canal Zone or Panama cancellations aside from the bar cancellation. This is quite unusual, as both the Canal Zone and Panama City post offices appear to have been quite diligent in date stamping the First Series covers. It is understandable that one agency might skip the date stamp. For both to do so on the same envelope could mean this cover never went through the two postal systems. Perhaps it was taken to the Canal Zone post office after 17 July, when the stamps were demonetized, and received a favor bar cancellation.

### Summary

Genuine covers that have the complete First Series of Canal Zone stamps are scarce and have been sought after for some time. They rarely come up for sale and when they do they command high prices.

During the last few days of their usage in the Canal Zone one or more people hand stamped a forged Canal Zone overprint onto genuine Panama stamps. In at least one case they did so to Panama stamps after affixing them to the envelope. On the 14<sup>th</sup> of July they handed in at least five of them to the Ancon post office where the stamps were treated as genuine, cancelled and the covers sent to Panama City.

These covers with forged overprints look like genuine covers and have been offered for sale by reputable auction houses. In one case the same cover reappeared 25 years later on Ebay.

With the exception of one, the

Stilwell cover, all are dated July 14, 1904 at Ancon and were sent to Panama City. The names of the addresses are Toledano, de Lemos, Alzamora, and Paredes and several are in the same handwriting. None had a certificate from any of the qualified organizations in the United States.

### Request for Information

As little has been published on these First Series forgeries it is likely that there are more covers with either the full set, various combinations, or single forged overprints that have been through the Canal Zone postal system. I would greatly appreciate receiving photocopies or scans of the front and back sides of any covers which have forged First Series overprints or are similar to the covers shown here. I can be reached by email at: LEMER@ONLINE.NO or write to me at: Post Box 654 Skoeyen, NO-0214 Oslo, Norway. Alternatively contact me through the editor of the *Canal Zone Philatelist*.



Fig. 5. Forgery addressed to Alzamora

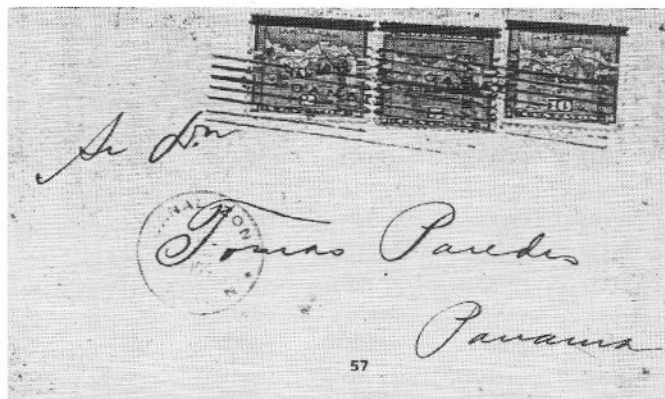


Fig. 6. Forgery addressed to Paredes

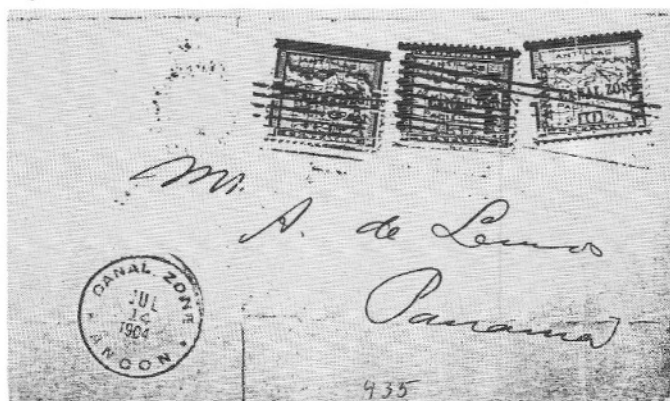


Fig. 7. Forgery addressed to de Lemos from Harmer Auction



Fig. 8. Forgery addressed to de Lemos

## Fake Overprints on Canal Zone Stamps

By Richard D. Bates, Jr.

### First Series - Scott Numbers 1-3

To provide an article to accompany the one by David Zemer, on a forged cover with fake Canal Zone Overprints of No. 1, 2 and 3 contained in this issue of the *CZP*; treatment of fake overprints on the first series has been moved ahead of the planned schedule, with this as the first of several articles that will deal with fake overprints of Scott CZ No. 1-3.

Of all the series of Canal Zone issues, the first series is the one with the most plentiful fakes. Within the series, fakes of No. 1 are the most frequently encountered. Generally, examples of Scott 1-3 should be purchased with a certificate, or should be sent for expertization with the purchase conditioned on obtaining a favorable opinion.

This article will focus on features of these stamps that identify them as fakes. Features to look for that help determine that a stamp is genuine will be treated more extensively later.

To be a genuine Scott CZ No. 1-3, the CANAL ZONE overprint has to 1) be applied to the correct Panama stamp, 2) be in the correct color, and 3) be of the appropriate length. Some details of the correct Panama stamps that were overprinted are given in *Canal Zone Stamps (CZS)* page 20, and will not be repeated here, as the Panama stamps used to generate these fakes on cover in the accompanying article, appear from the available scan, to be correct.

The correct color of the CANAL ZONE overprint is described in *CZS*, as violet to bluish-violet, with the color variation as much between the Canal Zone No. 1 compared to No. 2 or No. 3 stamps as it is on individual copies of the same Scott number. The overprint on genuine examples of No. 3 seems more violet, with less blue in it, perhaps because of the contrast with the yellow in the underlying stamp. On the fakes in the accompanying article, the CANAL ZONE overprint is black. Though there is some variation of the CANAL ZONE overprint with the heaviness of the ink-

ing and strike, black overprints are never OK.

Because I was working from a printout of a computer scan of the cover, the determination of the length of the overprint was too uncertain to be reliable, even by using ratios of various dimensions with known copies. (Scanners do not reproduce edges of letters sufficiently sharp to be able to make the quality measurements required, especially if the scan is of low resolution.)

The three requirements are: 1) that the stamp overprinted be the correct Panama stamp, 2) the CANAL ZONE overprint be in the correct range of violet to bluish-violet color, and 3) the overprint should measure 18 mm (with tolerance for the heaviness of the overprint) are primary distinguishing characteristics. Without them a No. 1, 2, or 3 cannot be genuine.

In addition to the primary characteristics, there are secondary characteristics that help distinguish examples that are genuine from those that pass or come close to passing the primary tests. These are not as definitive as the primary characteristics, because there is considerable variation on them from example to example, or often they are not clear enough on all examples to serve as a primary characteristic. This article will identify a couple of those characteristics, with additional features to be identified in subsequent articles.

Figure 1 shows two CANAL ZONE overprints. Both are from examples that seem to be Scott No. 3, chosen to be illustrated in this article because

the overprint stands out best for reproduction. The upper one is from a genuine copy that has an APES certificate; the bottom one is extracted from the scan provided to me of the cover from the accompanying Zemer article.

Putting aside the clearly distinguishing fact that when viewed in color, the upper CANAL ZONE is violet, and the lower one is black, one other feature of the two overprints can be examined. The fake overprint has a decidedly flat appearance, with the ink appearing to be distributed equally over all parts of the individual letters. In the genuine example, the overprint has a ridge of ink in the center of the letters, with the ink becoming less heavy toward the edges of the individual letters. This is visible on most genuine copies of Nos. 1, 2, or 3 unless the overprint is very light, and is particularly evident on genuine examples of Nos. 2 and 3. The absence of this feature in the letters of the overprint does not mean it is fake, but as you run through a series of these secondary characteristics, you do ask yourself why it is not present.

There are two features of the cover worth discussing that also point to the stamps as likely being fakes. First, the wonderful observation by the authors of the accompanying article, is that the CANAL ZONE overprint on the No. 2 on the cover extends beyond the edge of the stamp, and part of the E appears on the cover itself. This says the stamp was on the cover before the overprint was applied, in conflict with conventional wisdom, as described in *CZS*, that the overprint-



Fig. 1. Upper illustration shows a genuine handstamp on Canal Zone Scott No. 3; lower shows a forged overprint from a stamp on the cover in the accompanying Zemer article.



ing was done in Panama and the overprinted stamps brought into the Zone for use. One hears on occasion the suggestion, that maybe the experts do not really know, and that an overprint deemed to be fake with a blackish overprint might really be good. After all, here is a cover with them that looks genuine, and that appears to have genuine markings. Though, the overprint off the edge of the stamp and onto the cover seems to seal the fate of these examples. The observation of the offset of a CANAL ZONE overprint from some other stamp on the back of the cover is a further feature indicating the stamps were overprinted while already affixed to the cover.

Second, it would be my expectation that this cover should include an additional marking that is missing here. The cover front in Fig. 2 shows what one usually sees. The first is the town marking of the office that applied the cancellation, here La Boca, dated July 3rd. Then in the case of an item going between towns, there is a second handstamp serving as a receiving marking of that town. For mail going into Panama, as is the case of the



**Fig. 2. Cover face containing Canal Zone Scott No. 2 into Panama with town marking for La Boca where cover entered postal system and transit marking for Cristobal.**

item in Fig. 2, as well as the cover in the accompanying Zemer article, that additional marking is a transit marking from the town through which the mail went into Panama which, in the case of the item in Fig. 2, is from Cristobal on July 5th. For the cover in the accompanying article, I would have expected a second town mark-

ing, on the cover, from Cristobal. This point may merit further study of the known examples of genuine covers into Panama, and is one on which I would welcome comments, as I do on anything contained in this series of articles on forged overprints.

## Auctions by Jim Crumpacker

With the exception of a nice offering of inverted centers by Shreve's, the third calendar quarter. July 1-Sept. 30, 2002 was a bummer insofar as Canal Zone stamps and covers were concerned. Otherwise, a few auction houses had one or two lots of modest interest in a dead quarter.

Some results are shown below. The first price is hammer plus commission and is followed in parenthesis by the 2002 Scott's Specialized Catalog value.

6, used, VF \$55 (\$65) Aldrich

22g, inverted center w/ ovpt reading up, used, -VF+ \$4125 (\$2730) Shreve's

22g, inverted center w/ ovpt reading up, TG, HR, and a small adhesion o/w VF \$1870 (\$4000) Shreve's

39e, inverted center and ovpt reading down, OG, NH, F \$770 (\$700) Shreve's

39e, inverted center and ovpt reading down, OG, H, XF \$495 (\$700) Shreve's

39e, inverted center and ovpt reading down, used, VF+ \$385 (\$750) Shreve's  
39f, booklet pane of 6, handmade, perforated margins, inverted center and inverted overprint, part TG, H, perfs trimmed 4 stamps and staple holes in 2 stamps, centered F-VF \$4125 (\$8000) Shreve's

54, OG, NH, VF \$116 (\$175) Aldrich  
71b, ZONE inverted, OG, NH, almost VF in pair w/ normal \$242 (\$351) Aldrich

C3, F on F-VF cover COCO SOLO cds 5/5/34 also tied by "Airship U.S.S. Macon Participation in Fleet Problem XV off Coco Solo, Canal Zone" handstamp. Item sold in a lot w/ 3 unrelated covers, \$184 (\$n/a) Superior

The names and addresses of the three auction firms are given below.

**Michael E. Aldrich**

P.O. Box 2295

Carefree, Arizona 85377

**Shreve's Philatelic Galleries, Inc.**

14131 Midway Rd., Suite 1250

Addison, TX, 75001-9829

**Superior Stamps and Collectibles**  
9478 West Olympic Blvd., Second Floor  
Beverly Hills, CA 90212-4246

## Scott No. 2 - New Variety continued from page 49

vertically, ... genuine in all respects."

Numerous early publications have been checked, but H.F. Colman, William Evans, and J. M. Bartels provide no information as to this new variety.

Hopefully a new addition to the Scott No. 22 varieties will be listed in a future edition of the Scott catalog. I am proposing that it be given the number Scott 22h so that the alphabetical order of what is currently listed in Scott is not upset.

So, once again, carefully examine your stamps. There is no telling what will show up; maybe a "wront font" among your sharp A overprints? And if anyone has an example of the new variety would they please contact me through the CZP Editor.



## Incoming Mail to the Canal Zone

by Jim Cross

In March 2000 I began collecting incoming mail to Panama and the Canal Zone. With the exception of items with Canal Zone postage due this mail is widely scattered, with much of it in collections of the countries of origin. The Internet has made it much easier to find this material since it is possible to quickly search dealer and auction listings for the key words. Previously most could only be found by time-consuming searches in dealer's cover boxes.

The incoming mail collection was shown non-competitively in Boxboro in conjunction with our meeting there in May. The exhibit included over 120 covers that originated in more than 66 countries and colonies. Just over 60% of the items were addressed to the Canal Zone, the rest to Panama. I will discuss the Canal Zone portion in this article.

I have divided the collection into six time periods. The first period covers mail thru 1903 when Panama was part of Colombia. Mail from this period is not plentiful. My earliest incoming cover is dated in 1858. Two covers from the French canal construction period (one not in my collection) are forerunners of interest to Canal Zone collectors.

Figure 1 shows an underfranked 1887 cover addressed to Ferdinand De Lesseps, lot 470 in the AFINSA sale of Nov. 4, 1999. It was mailed in

the U.S. with a 2c stamp and marked with a T and due 15 centimes. Payment of the postage due is shown by a 5 centavos stamp of the 1886 Colombia issue. By this time De Lesseps had returned to France from an earlier visit. This is the only recorded cover to Panama with a regular Colombian stamp used to collect postage due. The Helme collection included four pre-independence incoming covers with postage due paid by stamps of the 1892-1895 issue for Panama.

Figure 2 shows lot 222 in the AFINSA sale of Feb. 20, 2002. The cover was mailed in France. It has a faint previously unrecorded LA BOCA/CANAL DE PANAMA marking of the French Canal Company as well as a PANAMA/CANAL DE PANAMA marking on the reverse. These are the only two incoming covers addressed to the French Canal Company known to the author.

The second period in the collection is the Canal construction period (1904-1914). Covers from this period include two large incoming correspondences. The first is mail addressed to Dr. J.C. Perry. Dr. Perry was a public health officer who also supplied Panama and Canal Zone stamps to dealers in the U.S. The exhibit has registered covers to Perry from British Honduras, British Offices in Levant (Fig. 3.), German Offices in Turkey (Fig. 4.), Hungary (Fig. 5.) and a cover from Dahomey.

Gerald D. Bliss, a Canal Zone postal employee who later became the Cristobal postmaster, received much correspondence. Post cards addressed to him from Austrian Offices in Turkey, French Indochina, Japan, Papua and New Guinea, Senegal and Uruguay have recently appeared on e-Bay. Five of these are in the exhibit. These two correspondences seem to be widely dispersed, with e-Bay offerings by dealers in several foreign countries.

Other interesting covers from this period include a registered item from Tripoliville, Syria franked with stamps of the French Offices in Levant and a 1913 registered letter from Piraeus, Greece.

The next period (1914-1929) begins with the opening of the Canal and ends with the beginning of scheduled airmail service. Most of World War I is included. Interesting covers in the collection include a 1918 registered cover from Chudnov in the Ukraine to Ancon (with extensive water damage, possibly from handling in Russia prior to dispatch), a cover from Lourenço Marques with franking that includes a Mozambique War Tax Stamp (Fig. 6.), a censored 1916 cover from India and the cover shown in Fig. 7. The A.P.S. typed I. of P. at the bottom of the address to abbreviate the Isthmus of Panama. The post office interpreted this as the Philippine Islands. The letter was delayed for over a month. This period also in-



Fig. 1. Incoming 1887 cover to De Lesseps from U.S.



Fig. 2. Incoming 1886 cover from France, with LA BOCA marking.



Fig. 3. Incoming 1910 cover to Perry, from British Offices in Levant.



Fig. 4. Incoming 1906 cover to Perry, from German Offices in Turkey.

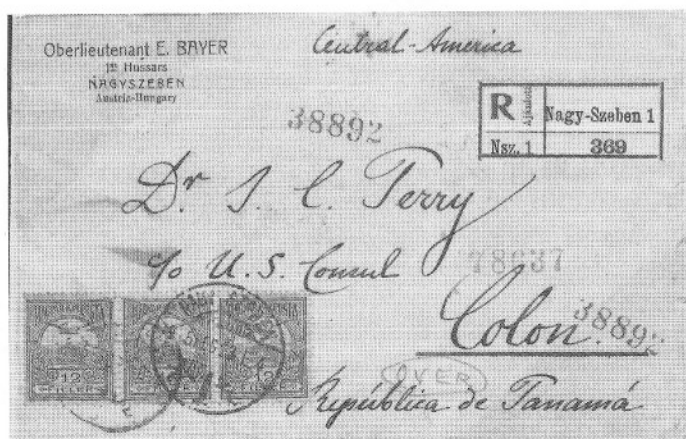


Fig. 5. Incoming 1905 cover to Perry from Hungary.

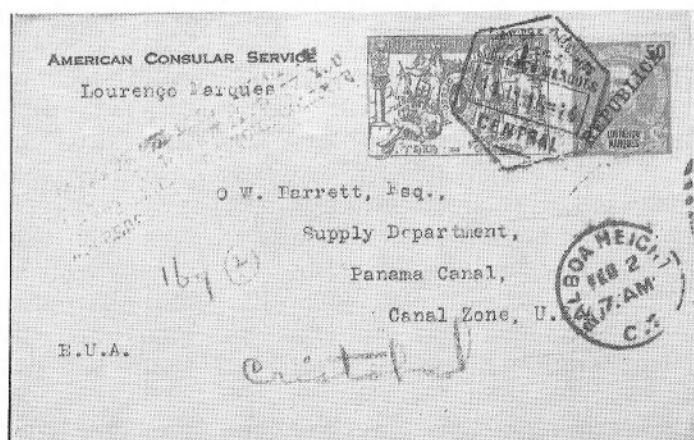


Fig. 6. Incoming 1905 cover from Lourenco Marques.

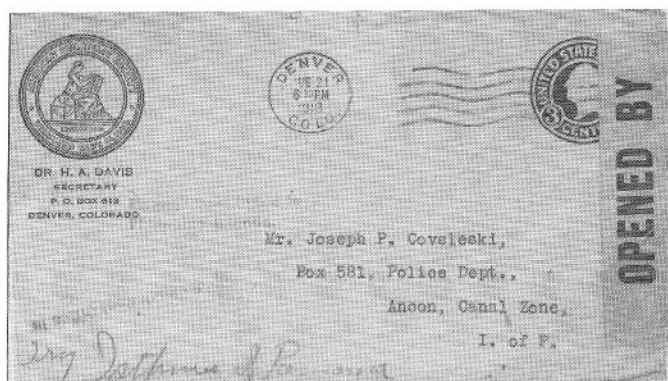


Fig. 7. Incoming mis-routed 1918 cover from the A.P.S.



Fig. 8. Incoming 1923 "Hyperinflation" cover from Germany, with TRANSITO marking.

cludes incoming covers from several U.S. Army survey flights to Costa Rica and from the February 1929 Lindbergh flight from the United States.

An unusual item in the collection from this period is a card mailed from Germany on November 11, 1923 dur-

ing the hyperinflation period. (Fig. 8.). The postage rate on that date was 40 million marks. The card has a Colon "Transito" marking on the front. A cover belonging to David Leeds mailed to a Panama address 4 days later has postage of 8 billion marks. It was illustrated on the cover

of the March 2001 issue of COPACARTA.

The fourth period (1929-1939) saw a steady increase in the volume of air mail. While outgoing mail after May 22, 1929, was sent from the Canal Zone and Panama to Europe by com-

(Continued on next page)



bined air/sea mail, there is little evidence of reciprocal service. Even philatelic covers from Europe which had sufficient postage paid to cover airmail fees were sent from New York by ship. I have seen incoming airmail only from Canada, Latin America, and the West Indies until clipper service to the U.S. from Europe and Asia began. Airmail covers other than first flight covers are not plentiful. The exhibit has such covers from Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Venezuela, and the U.S. Virgin Islands in this period. Figure 9 shows a cover mailed to the Chief of Police of the Canal Zone from Almeria, Spain in 1938. It was censored because of the Spanish Civil War. Philatelic mail during the period includes two covers with semi-postal sets from Belgium and one with 10 values of the 1934-1935 small definitive set from Austria.

A June 29, 1937 letter from Germany to Cristobal was sent by ship to New York, via Air and has an arrival marking of July 7 (Fig. 10.).

The fifth period covers the World War II years 1939-1945. Beginning in 1940 there is an extensive correspondence of the British West Indian Oil Company. Most letters were registered and sent by Karl Karlson to his

wife at the company address. The earliest covers are addressed to Panama, but later covers show post office box addresses in the Canal Zone. These covers have only recently come on the market and are being offered by several dealers in the United States, Canada and Argentina. I have registered covers to Mrs. Karlson from Antigua, Aruba, Bahamas, British Guiana, Dominica, Falkland Islands, Grenada and Jamaica, and have seen one from St. Helena. Three 1942 Falkland Island registered covers from this correspondence have been sold on e-Bay in the past year, each for more than \$200.

A 1940 First Day Cover with the first Pitcairn Islands stamp set was sent to a chaplain at Fort Clayton. The first available ship on which it could be sent went to Seattle and the cover was routed to New York and then the Canal Zone. There is a 1940 airmail cover from Hong Kong, the only example of clipper mail from Asia before the war in the collection.

Almost all covers from this period are censored with markings of the originating locations. The exhibit includes a 1940 cover from Denmark with German censorship markings on the reverse. I don't have incoming covers to APO's in the Canal Zone,

but the exhibit includes pre-war covers addressed to military stations beginning with a 1913 cover to Las Cascadas.

The final period in the exhibit is 1946-1979. Better post-war covers include a registered letter from Liechtenstein to Colon that missed a boat passenger, was forwarded to Singapore and eventually returned to the sender completing a trip around the world. A registered letter from Honduras was mailed at Guanaja, an island off its Caribbean coast. An airmail letter from New Zealand addressed to a passenger via a shipping agent was marked postage due 60 centimes, but has no indication postage was collected when delivered in Balboa.

Covers from printed matter are not common. The collection includes post-war printed matter covers from Aden, the Canary Islands, Fiji, Netherlands and Turkey and pre-war printed matter covers from Japan, Newfoundland and Poland.

Examination of the backstamps on registered letters indicates that some mail for the Canal Zone was dispatched to Panama and then turned over to Canal Zone authorities. Five of the registered covers in the collection show Panama backstamps. They occur in all time periods.



Fig. 9. Incoming 1938 censored cover from Spain



Fig. 10. Incoming 1937 ship-air cover from Germany



## 2003 Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps by Jim Crumpacker

There were around 110 price changes in the 2003 Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and covers, although more than 50 of these represented nothing more than increases of \$25-\$100 each in all the Proofs. Most moves were auction driven and generally did not amount to much. Ebay influence was noted in nos. 105a-114 plate blocks pricing, as nearly all went up 15-20% or so; not many dealers seem to have any meaningful stock of these. A few photos of stamps disappeared from the new catalogue, leaving us with Third Series "8 cts." or "8 cts" surcharges to view but no picture of an actual stamp. Similarly, the photo of Scott No. 55 was removed, leaving behind a much oversize Type V overprint, although the text does define the actual size of the overprint.

There are two new listings: J11C and J11Cd. The former is given an integer with the text mentioning the blue type V overprint on the underlying 1c stamp. J11C has the overprint read-

ing up, the very elusive J11Cd has the overprint reading down. For the background on these issues please refer to the article by Richard Spielberg in CZP Whole No. 136 and another article in CZP Whole No. 123. These two issues are, in my opinion, properly priced in the new catalogue (see listings at the end of this article). Now all we have to do is educate the dealers about the subject.

The Scott's editors made no price changes in any of the Postal Stationery. They must be waiting for the new UPSS catalog, just as we are. Also left alone were Nos. 136 - 165 and nearly all the Airs.

Some of the changes are shown below. Price is for an OG copy, unless noted otherwise.

### President's Report

*Continued from page 49*

Scott's CZ listings elsewhere in this issue. Even if you do not purchase their catalogs every year, your local library will have a copy of the Specialized catalog.

I refer you also to the "Auctions" column in this issue, wherein men-

Scott Catalogue #	2002 listing	2003 listing
lb CANAL ZONE		
double	\$2000	\$2500
2	225	250
15 var., P NAMA	3250	5000
56f, ZONE double	1000	1250
84b, ZONE CANAL	375	325
97b, BP of 6	600	525
115c, BP of 6	225	210
C2	85	75
J9, on cover	165	200
J11C		OG unpriced, \$10 for used
J11Cd	—	200
J12	110	100

tion is made of an airship cover resulting from a visit by the U.S.S. *Macon* to the Canal Zone. Airships and their related CZ postal history are not subjects that have received much illumination in CZP. Don't we have a member out there who is knowledgeable on this topic? There are many other orphan subjects in need of a bright light of reason who will expose us to an interesting article. I wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season.

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☐ Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

PS Form 3526, October 1999 (See Instructions on Reverse)

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(1) Paid/Requested Outside-County Mail Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies)	1000	1000
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e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	0	0
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g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f)	762	753
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16. Publication of Statement of Ownership  
Publication required. Will be printed in the 4th QTR 2002 issue of this publication. ☐ Publication not required.

17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner  
Peter M. Copekey  
26 SEP 02

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